

REMARKS

By this Amendment claim 3 has been amended to define a range for the length of the sides of the square openings in the molded net member which is located in the integral intermediate layer of the defined molded shell, as well as a range for the diameters of the strands thereof. See the specification at page 6, lines 1-20. New claims 6 and 7 have been added to define further features of the invention (see specification at page 6, line 21 to page 7, line 3 and page 9, lines 7-10. Entry is requested.

In the final Office Action of January 11, 2006, the examiner has rejected claims 3-5 as being unpatentable over JP 58-083420 in view of Cordova et al., asserting that it would be obvious to employ the second layer of Cordova when in the form of an open knitted network of fibers between two of the non-woven layers of the intermediate layer of JP 58-083420 so as to "create a helmet having increased strength and puncture resistance."

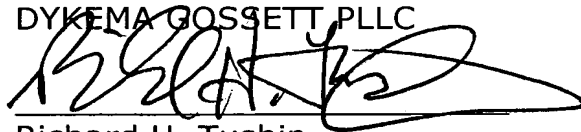
The applicant continues to believe that the examiner's combination of references is not proper for the reasons given in the Amendment of October 19, 2005. The examiner's rejection is clearly based on a hindsight evaluation of the present application. However, to further prosecution claim 3 has now been further amended to defines features clearly not suggested by JP 58-083420 or Cordova. Even if JP 58-083420 and Cordova are combined as proposed by the examiner, the sizes defined in claim 3 would not be suggested.

Favorable reevaluation is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Tushin', is written over a horizontal line.

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